

# What's Right? What's Wrong!

## A Look at God's View of Sin

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Many of us would agree that Man's view of Right & Wrong is increasingly at odds with God's view of Right & Wrong. God's view is clearly made known in His Bible. He calls Right – Righteousness. He calls Wrong – Sin (or Evil)!

The purpose of this paper is to clearly lay out what God's views of Wrong are. Let's take them alphabetically...and use address references in the Bible so you can look them up yourself and even find other clarifying references. As Paul says in 2 Timothy 4:3-5, Pastors, Preachers and Teachers are to tell the people what is right and wrong according to God's Word. It is *vital*ly important that such teaching take place on a recurring, e.g. annual, basis! Otherwise, how should people know?!

Let's settle one important issue before we start. The Bible, the source of all Truth, is still the best source for addressing and managing our behavior. Why? Because man's heart (or soul) today is the same as the heart (or soul) of the first humans. Ever since the Fall of Man in the Garden of Eden, God has said of man's heart, that it is "desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9). So yes, the Bible is 100% relevant to us.

God's Word is the source of all Truth; Satan's words are the source of all Lies and all evil. It is sin that ruins people, churches, nations, and the world. To tolerate sin is to endorse it. Paul in the book of Romans (see below) makes it crystal clear what will happen to those who refuse to turn from their wicked ways. And if there are those who think they can hide their sinfulness from God, take a look at Hebrews 4:12,13. God has provided us a means of dealing with unrepentant sinners in a church body. It's in Matthew 18:15-17 and is seldom used today, not because we are all good people, but because there is a reluctance to discipline church members publicly.

### **Sin defined in General (synonym: Evil)**

Scripture references for a general look at Sin, before we look at specific sins.

Exodus 20:3-17

1 John 3:8; 2:15,16

1 Corinthians 6:9,10,13-20

Romans 1:18,24; 2:5-16; 3:5,10-26; 6:23

Mark 7:21-23

Proverbs 6:16-19; 15:14

Galatians 5:19-23: 6:7,8

1 Timothy 1:9-11,15-17

Titus 2:11,12

Matthew 12:35-37

And then there is this powerful statement from the Prophet Isaiah in his chapter 5, verses 20 and 21:

"What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil,  
that dark is light and light is dark,  
that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.

What sorrow for those who are wise in their own eyes  
and think themselves so clever."

## **Abortion**

What's in a mother's womb is God's Creation – a human being from the moment of conception. There is no way to escape labelling abortion as "Murder" – period.

Jeremiah 1:5a

Isaiah 49:1b, 5a

Psalms 139:13-16

Exodus 20:13

Deuteronomy 5:17

## **Addiction**

This is a situation where a person is addicted to or enslaved by some hurtful or damaging thing; e.g. Illicit Drugs, Alcohol, Pornography, Illicit Sex, Social Media, Gambling, Electronic Games, etc.

1 Corinthians 5:11; 6:9

Hosea 4:11

Proverbs 20:1; 21:17; 23:20,21,29-35

Isaiah 5:11,12,22

## **Adultery & Fornication**

The first of these means sexual intercourse with other than your spouse.

The second means sexual intercourse outside marriage. In short, sexual intercourse is reserved by God for marriage alone; no sex before or outside marriage.

Exodus 20:14

Proverbs 2:16-19; 6:20-29; 9:13-18

Matthew 5:27,28

Romans 13:14

1 Corinthians 6:9,10, 13-20

Hebrews 13:4

## **Bribery**

This means that a person offers another person a gift of money or other inducement so that the one who takes the bribe will act in the briber's favor, typically illegally or dishonestly.

Deuteronomy 27:25

Proverbs 15:27; 17:23

Matthew 26:15,16

1 Timothy 6:10

## **Cheating**

This means to deal deceptively, dishonestly or unfairly with someone or some organization in an attempt to gain an advantage, especially in trade, a game or examination.

Leviticus 19:13,35,36

Deuteronomy 25:13,16

Job 24:2-11

Psalms 37:21; 50:18

Proverbs 11:1

Jeremiah 22:13

## **Covetousness or Craving**

This means that you desire something that someone else has. It reflects that you are dissatisfied with what you have (that God provided for you). Worst case scenario suggests you may be willing to take it even by force.

Exodus 20:17

Romans 7:7

## **Dishonor others, especially Parents**

We are to love one another just as God, who made us all, loves us all. Jesus exemplified this brilliantly while He was on the earth as a human. So, dishonoring someone, including God, is to demonstrate that you do not love them. God hates it when we dishonor one another, especially Parents or Himself. In fact, God says in His Word that to honor and therefore love your Parents assures you a long life – suggesting that the opposite does not assure you a long life. And one other way to dishonor God is to use His name as a curse word; a bad idea.

Exodus 20:7, 12

Leviticus 19:12

Deuteronomy 5:16

Proverbs 20:20

1 Timothy 5:8

Matthew 15:4

Mark 7:10

## **Homosexuality & Lesbianism**

Simply stated these two are defined as embracing the perverted activity of sexual relations between people of the same sex/gender. The first word is about men with men; the second is about women with women. It is an insult to God (a sin) to use our bodies in a way not prescribed by Him. This has led some to say that their body is theirs to use as they see fit, when in fact it is not theirs – it is on loan to us while on the earth. We are to use it and all other things on this earth only in those ways that God has approved, defined and ordained. Our Supreme Court is in serious conflict with God by having “found” that same-sex marriage is allowed by our Constitution.

1 Corinthians 6:9

Leviticus 18:22

Romans 1:26-28

## **Idolatry**

This means any creature, any person, any practice, any object, any entertainment, any service or anything that we place first in our hearts above God our Creator is an Idol. An idol can take the place of God in our view of the world and all it contains. An idol can be a sports team, an athlete, our spouse, a celebrity, or drink, or sex, or drugs, foods, cars, strange made-up gods, the sun, the moon, the stars, carved or molded figurines, money, etc., etc. Dangerous!

Exodus 20:4-6

Rev 21:8; 22:15; 9:20

Isaiah 45:20

Acts 17:22,23,29

Romans 1:22,23

1 Corinthians 8:4; 12:2

1 John 5:21

Jeremiah 10:1-16

## ***Immodest Dress***

To fail to show propriety in the way you dress yourself is not a sin, but...to dress to display portions of your body for the express purpose of causing others, especially of the opposite sex, to be attracted is a deliberate tempting (leading to lust).

Deuteronomy 22:5

1 Timothy 2:9,10

1 Peter 3:3,4

## **Incest, Molestation & Bestiality**

This is perhaps the most disgusting of the sexual sins. Sexual intercourse as already discussed is to be exercised solely between a man and his wife. Incest is sexual intercourse with others of the opposite sex/gender be they children, siblings, or relatives by blood or marriage. Though Incest is a type of molestation, the meaning here for molestation is the deliberate manipulation of sexual organs, to include hurtful or even injurious manipulation, of self or another. Bestiality means to have sexual relations with an animal.

Leviticus 18:6, 29; 20:11,12,14,17  
1 Corinthians 5:1,5

Mark 6:18

## **Lust**

This means to have a strong sexual desire, usually for someone. It has other meanings but this is the common one for our purposes. It is one of our strongest temptations and can lead people, especially men, to do terrible things like rape, even murder. Pornography which is writings or pictures intended primarily to arouse sexual desire is often used to artificially stimulate lust and is, therefore, sinful. The only way to really bring it under control is to surrender your life to God through Christ who will give you the Holy Spirit to help you control this and other strong emotions.

Matthew 5:28  
1 Thessalonians 4:3-7  
2 Timothy 2:22

Romans 13:14; 6:12  
Galatians 5:16-21

## **Lying**

Simply enough this means to express audibly or in writing what is not true.

Exodus 20:16  
Proverbs 6:16-19

Matthew 19:18  
Ephesians 4:25

## **Marriage**

No, marriage is not a sin, but is included here to insure you know that it has a revered place in the heart of our Creator God,

Hebrews 13:4  
1 Corinthians 7:2-4,10-16

## **Money**

Most of us know the expression, "Money is the root of all evil". But that is totally incorrect. Money is simply a medium of exchange. It is lifeless. What is true and something that has caused many a person to go over the edge spiritually and financially is the true saying about money. "The LOVE of money is the root of all kinds of evil."

1 Timothy 6:10

## **Murder & Suicide**

Murder means that someone has unlawfully taken the life of another human being. Suicide means that a person has taken his/her own life. Only the State may lawfully take the life of a human being after appropriate investigation and illumination of facts that prove the person guilty of murdering another human. The judge of a Suicide victim is God Himself.

Exodus 20:13

Matthew 5:21; 19:18

Romans 13:9

James 2:11

Acts 1:18; 16:27,28

Matthew 27:5

## **Pride**

Of the several definitions of pride, what is meant here is the excessive conceit or arrogance of a person in their elevated or excessive view of themselves. There is nothing wrong with a modest, healthy self-respect, but one must be careful to keep it in bounds. Few of us enjoy being around a person who is insufferably puffed up about themselves and their accomplishments. Sadly, such people are difficult to trust. God takes a very dim view of such a person, as the following scriptures reveal.

Proverbs 14:3; 8:13; 11:2,12; 13:10; 16:5,18,19; 21:4,24

Psalms 10:4-6; 73:6-9

Jeremiah 50:31

Daniel 4:37

Malachi 4:1

Mark 7:21-23

Romans 12:3-16

1 Corinthians 8:2,3

2 Corinthians 10:12,18

2 Timothy 3:2,4

1 John 2:16,17

## **Sabbath Rest**

God created the entire Universe by speaking it into existence in six normal days, sunrise to sunset to sunrise. On the seventh day, He rested from His labors. He expects us to do the same. We are to work six days a week and rest on the seventh day, preferably in prayer and worship to Him, and fellowship with others of like mind and our family. It does not mean to play organized sports or go shopping...

Exodus 20:8-11; 16:23

Leviticus 23:3; 26:1

## **Speech**

This is simply the act of speaking or expressing oneself in spoken words. It is the method of communicating with another person or persons in a common language. Such speech may be formal or informal. It may be peaceful or angry. It can be helpful or hurtful. It can also be disgusting, arrogant, disrespectful, obscene and foul. One of the most distressing uses of speech, especially to Christians, is the use of God's name as a curse word.

Proverbs 10:11,19,31,32; 13:3; 15:1,2,4,7,14,28; 18:6,7,13; 26:20-23,28; 14:3

Isaiah 6:5; 32:6,7

Psalms 10:7,11; 12:3,4

Matthew 5:22,37; 12:34,37

Luke 6:45

Romans 3:13,14

Ephesians 4:29,31

James 1:26; 3:5,6,8-10

## **Stealing**

This, of course, means to take something that is not yours from someone or someplace without permission.

Exodus 20:15

Matthew 19:18

Romans 13:9

1 Peter 4:15

Deuteronomy 5:19

Luke 18:20

Leviticus 19:11-13

## **Temptation**

This means to allow your sin-nature to lead you to do something that God has described as Sin. Lust is a very strong fuel for Temptation.

Matthew 26:41

Hebrew 2:18

2 Peter 2:9

1 Corinthians 10:13

James 1:2,3,12-16

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